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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/619,985	STARKEY, THOMAS DAVID	
	Examiner Bruce E. Snow	Art Unit 3738	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to BPAI Decision dated 8/17/07.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 31-34.
3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.



BRUCE SNOW
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The Examiner notes that applicant's after final amendments dated 10/22/07 and 10/15/07 did not fully incorporate all limitations of claim 20 and, therefore, have not been entered.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claims 1-30 have been canceled.

Claim 31. A method of treating a left ventricular aneurysm by inserting a sac in the left ventricle of the heart, as an addition to or step of a conventional operative repair of a left ventricular aneurysm, wherein said sac is a flexible sac for insertion in a chamber of the heart, said sac limiting to a predetermined amount the volume of blood that is allowed to enter the chamber in the diastolic phase of the heart function.

Claim 32. A method of treating a ventricular septal defect by inserting a sac in the left ventricle of the heart and connecting the sac to the annulus of the mitral valve and to the annulus of the aortic valve, wherein said sac is a flexible sac for insertion in a

chamber of the heart, said sac limiting to a predetermined amount the volume of blood that is allowed to enter the chamber in the diastolic phase of the heart function.

Claim 33. A method of treating primary pulmonary hypertension by inserting a sac in the right ventricle of the heart and connecting the sac to the annulus of the tricuspic valve and to the annulus of the pulmonic valve, wherein said sac is a flexible sac for insertion in a chamber of the heart, said sac limiting to a predetermined amount the volume of blood that is allowed to enter the chamber in the diastolic phase of the heart function.

Claim 34. A method of treating rupture of the ventricle by inserting a sac in the ventricle of the heart and connecting the sac to the annulus of the inflow valve and to the annulus of the outflow valve, wherein said sac is a flexible sac for insertion in a chamber of the heart, said sac limiting to a predetermined amount the volume of blood that is allowed to enter the chamber in the diastolic phase of the heart function.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bruce E. Snow whose telephone number is (571) 272-4759. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs.

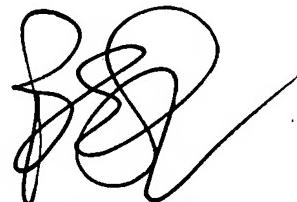
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Corrine McDermott can be reached on (571) 272-4754. The fax phone

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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

BES



BRUCE SNOW
PRIMARY EXAMINER